

ADAPTIVE JITTER BUFFER FOR INTERNET TELEPHONY**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

In an improved system for receiving digital voice signals from a data network, a jitter buffer manager monitors packet arrival times, determines a time varying transit delay variation parameter and adaptively controls jitter buffer size in response to the variation parameter. A speed control module responds to a control signal from the jitter buffer manager by modifying the rate of data consumption from the jitter buffer, to compensate for changes in buffer size, preferably in a manner which maintains audio output with acceptable, natural human speech characteristics. Preferably, the manager also calculates average packet delay and controls the speed control module to adaptively align the jitter buffer's center with the average packet delay time.

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